

CLAIMS

1. An apparatus that communicates with a communication system, wherein the communication system processes a communication signal by
5 performing any of a plurality of operations on the communication signal, the apparatus comprising:

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10 a processor that receives information regarding the availability of a geographical location of a primary communication device, wherein the information indicates whether the geographical location is available, and further wherein, if the information indicates that the geographical location is available, then the processor identifies one or more of the operations to be performed on the
15 communication signal based on the geographical location of the primary communication device, and if the information indicates that the geographical location is not available, then the processor identifies one or more of the operations to be
20 performed on the communication signal based on the information that the geographical location is not available.

25 2. The apparatus defined in claim 1, wherein the processor informs the communication system of the one or more identified operations.

3. The apparatus defined in claim 1, wherein the processor is adapted to process the communication signal by performing any of the plurality of operations on the communication signal and further wherein the processor performs the one or more identified operations.

4. The apparatus defined in claim 1, wherein at least one of the operations comprises forwarding the communication signal to a target communication device.

5. The apparatus defined in claim 4, wherein the target communication device is selected from the group consisting of a telephone, a voicemail program, a paging device, and a personal digital assistant.

6. The apparatus defined in claim 1, wherein at least one of the operations comprises forwarding the communication signal to one of a plurality of candidate communication devices.

7. The apparatus of claim 6, further comprising a memory coupled to the processor, wherein the processor identifies one of the plurality of candidate communication devices as a target communication device to which the call shall be forwarded further based on information stored in the memory.

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20 9. The apparatus defined in claim 7, wherein
the information stored in the memory comprises a set
of conditions that are associated with one of the
candidate communication devices and wherein the
processor tests each of the conditions such that if
25 all of the conditions are satisfied, then the
processor identifies the candidate communication
device associated with the set of conditions as the
target communication device to which the
communication signal is to be forwarded.

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the communication system of the geographical location of the primary communication device and further wherein the communication system informs the processor of the geographical location of the primary communication device.

18. The apparatus defined in claim 1, wherein the communication system is a circuit mode communication system.

19. The apparatus defined in claim 1, wherein the communication system is a packet-switched mode communication system and wherein the communication signal is packet-switched communication signal.

20. The apparatus defined in claim 1, wherein the communication signal is selected from the group consisting of a video signal, a voice signal, and a binary data signal.

21. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the communication system comprises a telephone communication system and wherein the communication signal comprises a telephone call.

22. The apparatus defined in claim 1, wherein the primary communication device is selected from the group consisting of a telephone, a paging device, and a personal digital assistant.

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24. An apparatus that communicates with a telephone communication system for processing a telephone call, wherein the processing performed by the telephone communication system comprises forwarding the telephone call, the apparatus comprising:

a processor that receives information comprising a geographical location at which a primary communication device is located and that identifies a target communication device to which the call shall be forwarded based on the geographical location of the primary communication device.

25. The apparatus of claim 24, further comprising:

a memory coupled to the processor wherein data is stored, and wherein the data comprises a list of one or more candidate communication devices, and wherein the data further comprises a list of one or more geographical regions, wherein each of the geographical regions is associated with one of the candidate communication devices; and

wherein the processor compares the geographical location of the primary communication device to the one or more geographical regions in the memory to determine in which of the one or more geographical regions the primary communication device is located, and further wherein the processor identifies the candidate communication device associated with the

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35. The apparatus defined in claim 34, further comprising a geographical location determining apparatus disposed in the communication device, wherein the geographical location determining apparatus determines the location of the primary communication device.

37. The apparatus as defined in claim 25,
wherein the target communication device is selected
15 from a group consisting of a paging device and a
voicemail program.

38. The apparatus as defined in claim 25, wherein the data entered comprises a set of preferences, and further wherein the processor uses the set of preferences in conjunction with the geographical location of the primary communication device to identify the target communication device.

39. A method for processing a communication signal, wherein the communication signal is processed by performing any of a plurality of operations on the communication signal, the method
5 comprising the steps of:

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10 a) receiving information regarding the availability of a geographical location of a primary communication device, wherein the information indicates whether the geographical location is available; and

15 b) if the information indicates that the geographical location is available, then identifying one or more of the operations to be performed on the communication signal based on the geographical location of the primary communication device; and

20 c) if the information indicates that the geographical location is not available, then identifying one or more of the operations to be performed on the communication signal based on the information that the geographical location is not available.

25 40. The method as defined in claim 39, wherein the communication signal comprises a telephone signal.

30 41. The method as defined in claim 39, wherein the at least one of the plurality of operations comprises forwarding the communication signal to one of a plurality of candidate communication devices.

42. The method as defined in claim 41, wherein
at least one of the candidate communication devices
comprises a telephone and wherein the primary
5 communication device comprises a telephone.

43. The method of claim 39, further comprising
the step of querying a geographical location
determining apparatus that determines the
10 geographical location of the primary communication
device, wherein the step of querying is performed
before step a).

44. The method of claim 39, wherein the steps
15 b) and c) further comprise the step of accessing a
memory in which data is stored, wherein the data
includes a list of geographical regions and further
includes a list of candidate operations, wherein
each of the geographical regions are associated with
20 one of the candidate operations, and wherein the
geographical region in which the primary
communication device is located is determined, and
further wherein the operation to be performed on the
communication signal is identified as the candidate
25 operation associated with the geographical region in
which the primary communication device is located.

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Abstract